

I am proud to say that we Americans continue our long tradition of compassion and generosity in responding to these needs. The United States is the primary donor of food aid in the world and the leading donor of food aid to Sudan and Chad. The U.S. Government has contributed a total of \$282.2 million worth of food aid thus far in FY 2006 to Darfur and the Sudanese refugees in Chad through the World Food Program and the International Committee of the Red Cross. This follows contributions totaling \$324.5 million to the same two organizations in FY 2005 for Sudan and Chad, in addition to 200,000 tons of wheat from the Bill Emerson Humanitarian Trust for Darfur.

The United States is also addressing the nutritional needs of particularly vulnerable populations. The President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief maximizes leverage with other donors including the USAID, the USDA and the World Food Program (with U.S. financial support) to address the needs of HIV-affected communities, both in terms of providing direct food assistance and in addressing the underlying causes of food insecurity.

During the hearing, we heard from our distinguished witnesses about the hunger crises in our world, what is being done to respond, and recommendations as to how we can respond better. Witnesses also testified about the contribution that U.S. food aid makes to longer-term, non-emergency development goals and the corresponding impact that this food aid has on individual lives. The most recent data available indicates that over 4 million children in 26 countries participated in the McGovern-Dole International Food for Education and Child Nutrition program in fiscal years 2003 and 2004. This program has resulted in higher school enrollment and improved access to education, especially for girls.

It is also reported by teachers and program administrators that the FFE program has increased local communities' concern for and participation in their children's education. There is a general improvement in academic performance as children are better able to concentrate after receiving a nutritious school lunch. Both families and the school community benefit from training on food preparation, health and hygiene. In this regard, we were privileged to hear testimony from Mr. Gabriel Laizer, who now works on international development issues for the Alliance to End Hunger and who started his career as a beneficiary of a feeding program in his primary school in Arusha, Tanzania.

My good friend Tony Hall, a former Member of Congress who just recently left his position as the U.S. Ambassador to the UN Agencies for Food and Agriculture, also testified. He has published a book recently entitled, "Changing the Face of Hunger," which I highly recommend, and which recounts many stories from Ambassador Hall's years of confronting hunger, poverty and oppression throughout the world. In his conclusion, he writes, "when you show Americans the poor and the hungry—when you connect with them and educate them and they see the problems themselves—they don't turn their backs. They want to help. They respond. We are a compassionate people, a giving people. We care."

In that spirit of compassion, I would ask my colleagues in Congress to continue to support the FY2006 emergency supplemental appro-

priation of \$350 million for food aid. While encouraging other international donors to respond in a likewise generous manner, we must continue to help, to respond, to show that we care.

It is my hope and expectation that we may further educate ourselves, our colleagues in Congress and the American people about the poor and the hungry, and we may respond with the compassion that they so desperately need.

HONORING ASHLEY HULTMAN ON THE COMPLETION OF HER INTERNSHIP

HON. BART GORDON

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2006

Mr. GORDON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to thank Ashley Hultman for her service during her internship in my Washington, DC, office. During her time on Capitol Hill, she has been a great help to me, my staff and my constituents in Tennessee's Sixth Congressional District.

Ashley is no stranger to the workings of a congressional office. Prior to interning in the Nation's capital, she assisted the staff in my Murfreesboro, Tennessee, office. While helping us with countless projects and endearing herself to constituents as she guided them through the Capitol or helped them cut through red tape at Federal agencies, she has certainly gained a wealth of experience that I hope will serve her well.

While we have enjoyed her help, Ashley now must return to Middle Tennessee to complete her degree at my alma mater, Middle Tennessee State University, where she is studying art history and political science.

I hope Ashley has enjoyed her internships as much as we have enjoyed having her help here in Washington, as well as in Murfreesboro. I wish her all the best in the future.

STATEMENT ON PASSING OF G.V. "SONNY" MONTGOMERY

HON. CORRINE BROWN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2006

Ms. CORRINE BROWN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay my respects to Mr. Veteran, Gillespie V. "Sonny" Montgomery, who died May 12.

He served for 30 years in the House and I was lucky enough to serve with him on the Veterans Committee.

When I was first elected to Congress in 1992, I knew that I wanted to serve on the Veterans Committee. I could think of no better way to serve my constituents or my country than to be on the committee that oversees the Department responsible for helping so many people. Sonny Montgomery was my inspiration.

I was a new member and introduced myself to the chairman. A more gracious and gentle man you could not meet.

I was walking down the hall with the former Speaker from the Florida legislature. Sonny

made a comment that I was a pleasure to work with and how much he enjoyed my participation in the Committee. The former Florida Speaker said you don't know her very well, she'll cut your heart out.

He was deeply committed to the cause of veterans and worked in a bipartisan manner to get that done. He also started the Bipartisan Prayer Breakfast which still meets every week.

Everyone was Sonny's friend. He was blessed to be surrounded by so many caring friends.

"Let the work that I have done speak for me" is a favorite line from a hymn. This line explains how Sonny lived his life.

God Bless Sonny Montgomery.

IN APPRECIATION OF MS. ROXANNE DODSON

HON. C.A. DUTCH RUPPERSBERGER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2006

Mr. RUPPERSBERGER. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to rise before you today in appreciation of a woman who has dedicated her life to educating young people. For eighteen and a half years, Ms. Roxanne Dodson has taught the beauty of art to Aberdeen Middle School students in Harford County. She has gained support and admiration from her peers and the school's administrators for her gift of education.

Art is a subject which is unlike any other. It is not a matter of right or wrong; instead it is a test of one's inner self. Some students simply do not have a natural gift in the arts; however, Ms. Dodson teaches personal growth and self acceptance. Students are rewarded for their courage to experiment and "think outside the box." They are taught much more than basic lines, curves and colors: they are taught how to try something new and accept the talents they possess.

Ms. Dodson is devoted to the students of Aberdeen Middle School. She uses her honed skills to assist with the school plays, concerts, and other special events. She says, "When a student knows a teacher cares, the emotional walls, no matter how thick, start to disintegrate."

I believe a successful learning environment is a safe environment. When students feel safe, they give more of themselves to the classroom, which results in learning. This is critical for the arts. An artist, no matter what level, must tear down their defensive walls to produce good, honest work.

Ms. Dodson received a Maryland Art Education award for outstanding service in 2001. Using her Masters degree in at-risk students, she developed a program to engage students who lack connection to other extra-curricular activities. This group created a garden entrance in their courtyard.

Ms. Dodson allows students to believe in themselves. She shows them the potential they have and encourages them to see their strengths. Her humorous and down-to-earth personality makes her approachable by students. She is among the elite in educators.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you please join me in thanking Ms. Roxanne Dodson for awakening the expectations of her students and stimulating the creativity they will need for the

rest of their lives. She is an inspiration to all educators.

IDENTITY THEFT PROTECTION ACT OF 2006

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2006

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, I am introducing a bill today that allows individuals to protect themselves from identity theft by controlling access to their credit report and information through a simple and low-cost process.

Under this bill, only those persons specifically authorized by the individual would have access to their credit report. This is the most effective tool we have to combat identity theft. A credit report freeze works because it actually stops the granting of new credit, unlike the lower standard of a fraud alert, which only conditions the granting of credit.

This would not affect the use of credit cards or existing credit. It only prevents the issuance of new credit unless the individual requests the credit report be sent to the lender. This gives individuals control over their credit report and allows them to protect themselves.

The bill that I am introducing is closely modeled on a bipartisan bill introduced in the Senate cosponsored by Senators MCCAIN and CLINTON, among others, and very closely similar to a bill introduced by Senator SHELBY in the Banking Committee. It is supported by the National Association of Attorneys General and all the groups concerned about individual privacy protections.

Many State laws give the right to freeze access to their credit report to everyone, but the data protection bills introduced to date addressing this issue would limit this right to proven victims of identity theft—those for whom the horse has already left the barn—and deny many whose data has been stolen the ability to prevent identity theft. Consumers would have to wait for harm to occur before they could prevent it. That makes no sense.

I also believe that any Federal file freeze must be easy to use, convenient, low cost, and available to all consumers, and my bill provides that.

I think that a national standard giving all individuals the ability to control access to their credit reports would create the market conditions for new security systems to develop to make the process of freezing and unfreezing even easier. Just as when eBay burst on the scene we had secure payments systems like PayPal spring up, so if file freeze becomes a national phenomenon, we will have entrepreneurs develop secure systems of freezing and unfreezing.

I urge Members to support this legislation and give their constituents this moderate and sensible tool to protect themselves from identity theft.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO RONALD AND WANDA MARTINSON

HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2006

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Ronald and Wanda Martinson for their 25 years of marriage.

Ron and Wanda are both from Minnesota and are career civil servants. Ron first came to Washington in 1969 to work for Congressman John Blatnik of Minnesota, and subsequently went to work for a Congressman from Texas. After spending six years in the House of Representatives, Ron went to work for Marty Hoffman, the Sergeant of Arms for the Senate, as an Administrative Assistant for six years. Ron then accepted a position in the Executive Branch at United States General Services Administration (GSA). Toward the end of his service at GSA, Ron was detailed to TOM DAVIS, who was then Chairman of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors, where he worked for three years. Following this detail, Ron retired. In 2003, after six years in retirement, Chairman TOM DAVIS of the House Government Reform Committee persuaded Ron to come out of retirement to be Staff Director for the Government Reform Subcommittee on Federal Workforce and Agency Organization.

Wanda came to Washington in 1974 and worked as Supreme Court Justice Harry Blackmun's secretary for twenty-five years. Following her tenure at the Supreme Court, Wanda went to work at Immigration and Naturalization Service and Wanda now works for the Department of Justice.

Wanda and Ron first met at a bible study in Northern Virginia and began dating. Their courtship was not always "smooth sailing"; in fact, the couple broke up two different times. In keeping with their dedication to civil service and love of the Washington, D.C. political culture, Ron proposed to Wanda in one of the House buildings one evening while returning from a political event. Ron and Wanda were married on April 25, 1981 at the National Presbyterian Church in D.C. and their reception was held in the foyer of the Rayburn House Office Building.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to honor the marriage of Ronald and Wanda Martinson. Their twenty-five years together is both impressive and inspiring. I wish them many more years of happiness together. I now yield the remainder of my time.

CONGRESSMAN HENSARLING HONORS HERB'S PAINT & BODY'S 50TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. JEB HENSARLING

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2006

Mr. HENSARLING. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to recognize the outstanding service commitment of the people of Herb's Paint & Body, a local icon around the Dallas metroplex, as they celebrate their 50th year of business and continue to make our community a better place to live.

Founded in 1956 by Herb Walne, Herb's Paint and Body originally was a Humble Gas

Station located in the northeast Dallas neighborhood known as Lake Highlands. Over the years, Herb's Paint and Body grew to include a mechanical repair shop, an automatic car wash and a full service paint and body shop. There are now 5 locations, each of which prides itself on following Herb's original goal of offering superior customer service.

Today their commitment extends beyond excellent customer service and reaches beyond the Fifth District. Herb's Paint and Body holds an annual Golf Tournament to support Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD) that successfully raised \$21,000 last fall. During the Christmas season, Herb's Paint and Body collects toys and canned goods to support the White Rock Center for Hope and help brighten underprivileged families' holidays. Although Herb's has expanded north, they continue to be deeply rooted in Lake Highlands through community involvement with schools and students. Recently, Herb's Paint & Body joined me in honoring the Lake Highlands High School Varsity Cheerleaders at the "Red Out" celebration that raised money for the Red Cross to help Hurricane victims. Thanks to the generosity of Herb's, the cheerleaders were able to sell the red T-Shirts that Herb's Paint and Body donated and raise almost \$14,000.

As the congressional representative of Herb's Paint & Body, it is my pleasure to recognize their excellence in service to the communities of the Fifth District of Texas.

EXTENSION OF FEMA HOUSING ASSISTANCE DEADLINE FOR HURRICANE KATRINA SURVIVORS

HON. ELIJAH E. CUMMINGS

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2006

Mr. CUMMINGS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to oppose the pending termination on May 31, 2006 of the FEMA housing assistance for survivors of Hurricane Katrina.

FEMA was required to submit a plan for developing transitional and eventually permanent housing for those who lost their homes in Katrina by January 6 of this year—but this plan still has not been submitted.

Now, without itself having figured out how best to provide housing to those left homeless by the hurricane, FEMA is poised to leave some 55,000 families—many with very young, or very old, or even very sick members—without any viable option for finding or affording housing and with few remaining options for seeking Federal assistance except on a very short-term basis.

Mr. Speaker, shortly after Katrina devastated New Orleans, the President pledged that our Nation would help that city and its citizens rebuild their lives. Not only has the President failed to honor that pledge, but the administration is now willing even to force those who lost everything out of the temporary housing provided to them in the wake of the storm. This is shameful. Is this how we should treat our brethren who have suffered and lost so much?

I urge my colleagues not to let FEMA fail, once again, those who have been failed by the government at every turn of this natural disaster. I urge my colleagues to join me in urging the administration to extend the FEMA temporary housing deadline.